IN THE CLAIMS:

The present listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the instant application.

1. (Previously Presented) A composition for stabilizing or preserving biomolecules, comprising:
at least one non-reducing disaccharide; and
at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class.

2. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is selected from the group consisting of trehalose (D-glucopyranosyl-D-glucopyranoside), sucrose (β-D-fructofuranosyl-α-D-glucopyranoside), as well as derivatives thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is trehalose.

4. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class has a motif comprising eleven amino acids, which is characterized by the following general formula (SEQ ID NO 1):
(1)-(2)-(3)-(4)-(5)-(6)-(7)-(8)-(9)-(10)-E,
wherein
(1) signifies K or T,
(2) signifies A, G, K, M or T,
(3) signifies R, D, A, E, Q or K,
(4) signifies E, K or S,
(5) signifies T, F, Y or A,
(6) signifies K, R, T or A,
(7) signifies D, E or Q,
(8) signifies S, R, Y or K,
(9) signifies A or T, and
(10) signifies G, A or R.

5. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein
said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is of LEA subclass 3 ~~with~~ and further has an amino acid sequence coded by a nucleotide sequence ~~as~~ selected from the group consisting of those deposited in GenBank under the accession number AF423069 or S39475.

6. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is of LEA subclass 3 and further has a motif comprising 11 amino acids, wherein the motif is selected from the group consisting of:
(a) K-T-A-E-F-R-D-S-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 2),

(b) K-G-Q-E-F-K-E-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 3),
(c) K-A-E-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 4),
(d) K-M-D-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO.5),
(e) K-A-R-K-T-K-D-S-A-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 6),
(f) K-A-K-E-Y-K-D-Y-T-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 7),
(g) K-A-R-E-T-T-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 8), and
(h) T-K-D-S-A-A-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 9).

7. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said non-reducing disaccharide is present at from 0.01 to 15 weight percent in relation to a ready-to-use solution and ~~the~~ said protein or polypeptide of the LEA class ~~are components in respective quantities of from~~is present at from 0.00001 to 1 ~~0.01 to 15~~ weight percent in relation to ~~a~~ the ready-to-use solution.

8. (Currently Amended) A process for stabilizing or preserving a biomolecules comprising the steps of:
providing a composition in accordance with claim 1; and
incubating a biomolecule in the composition.

9. (Currently Amended) A process for stabilizing or preserving a biomolecules immobilized on a surfaces comprising the steps of:
providing ~~loaded~~ a surfaces ~~comprising~~ having a biomolecules immobilized ~~on surfaces~~thereon; and
covering the ~~loaded~~ surfaces with the composition as defined in claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) A surface with an immobilized and stabilized or preserved biomolecules, obtained by the process as defined in claim 9.

11. (Previously Presented) A surface, covered with the composition as defined in claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) An analytic and/or diagnostic device, comprising a ~~A~~ surface according to claim 10 ~~as a component of an analytic and/or diagnostic device~~.

13. (Previously Presented) An analytic and/or diagnostic device, comprising a surface as defined in claim 11.

14. (Original) A device according to claim 13 selected from the group consisting of biochips, sensor chips, microtiter plates, test tubes and culture dishes.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A process for stabilizing or preserving biomolecules comprising the steps of:
(a) providing ~~immobilizing~~ a biomolecules immobilized on a surfaces; and
(b) covering the surfaces with a composition comprising:

i. at least one non-reducing disaccharide; and
ii. at least one protein of polypeptide of the LEA class.

17. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is selected from the group consisting of trehalose (D-glucopyranosyl-D-glucopyranoside), sucrose (β-D-fructofuranosyl-α-D-glucopyranoside), ~~as well as~~and derivatives thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is trehalose.

19. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein the at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class has a motif comprising eleven amino acids, which is characterized by the following general formula (SEQ ID NO 1):
(1)-(2)-(3)-(4)-(5)-(6)-(7)-(8)-(9)-(10)-E,
wherein
(1) signifies K or T,
(2) signifies A, G, K, M or T,
(3) signifies R, D, A, E, Q or K,
(4) signifies E, K or S,
(5) signifies T, F, Y or A,
(6) signifies K, R, T or A,
(7) signifies D, E or Q,
(8) signifies S, R, Y or K,
(9) signifies A or T, and
(10) signifies G, A or R.

20. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, ~~further comprising~~wherein said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is of LEA-subclass 3 ~~with~~ and further has an amino acid sequence coded by a nucleotide sequence ~~as~~ selected from the group consisting of those deposited in GenBank under the accession number AF423069 or S39475.

21. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA ~~subclass 3~~class has a motif comprising 11 amino acids, wherein the motif is selected from the group consisting of:
(a) K-T-A-E-F-R-D-S-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 2),
(b) K-G-Q-E-F-K-E-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 3),
(c) K-A-E-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 4),
(d) K-M-D-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO.5),
(e) K-A-R-K-T-K-D-S-A-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 6),
(f) K-A-K-E-Y-K-D-Y-T-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 7),
(g) K-A-R-E-T-T-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 8), and
(h) T-K-D-S-A-A-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 9).

22. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein ~~the~~ said non-reducing disaccharide is present at from 0.01 to 15 weight percent in relation to a ready-to-use solution and ~~the~~ said protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is present at~~are components in respective quantities of~~ from 0.00001 to 1~~0.01 to 15~~ weight percent in relation to ~~a~~ the ready-to-use solution.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a surface with immobilized and stabilized~~,~~ or ~~alternatively~~ preserved~~,~~ biomolecules comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a surface with a biomolecules ~~to be~~ immobilized ~~and~~, stabilized, or ~~alternatively~~ preserved thereon; and

(b) covering the biomolecules with a composition comprising:

i. at least one non-reducing disaccharide; and

ii. at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class.

25. (Currently Amended) A surface with immobilized and stabilized~~,~~ or ~~alternatively~~ preserved~~,~~ biomolecules obtained through the process as defined by claim ~~2~~4~~1~~6.

26. (Currently Amended) A component of an analytical and/or diagnostic device, wherein the component is a surface ~~with~~ having a biomolecule immobilized and stabilized~~,~~ or ~~alternatively~~ preserved~~,~~ ~~biomolecules~~ thereon, covered with a ~~composition, the~~ composition comprising:

at least one non-reducing disaccharide; and

at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class.

27. (Currently Amended) A surface of a material selected from the group consisting of glass, quartz glass, quartz, silicon, polymers, nitrocellulose, nylon and micro fiber membranes, and paper, wherein the surface includes an immobilized and stabilized, or ~~alternatively~~ preserved~~,~~ biomolecules, thereon, covered with a composition~~, the composition~~ comprising:

at least one non-reducing disaccharide; and

at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class.

28. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim 27, wherein ~~the~~ said non-reducing disaccharide is present at from 0.01 to 15 weight percent in relation to a ready-to-use solution and ~~the~~ said protein or polypeptide of the LEA class ~~are components in respective quantities of~~ is present at from 0.00001 to 1~~0.01 to 15~~ weight percent in relation to ~~a~~ the ready-to-use solution.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim ~~2~~8~~2~~7, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is selected from the group consisting of trehalose (D-

glucopyranosyl-D-glucopyranoside), sucrose (β-D-fructofuranosyl-α-D-glucopyranoside), as well as derivatives thereof.

31. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim ~~29~~27, wherein the non-reducing disaccharide is trehalose.

32. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim 27, wherein the at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class has a motif comprising eleven amino acids, which is characterized by the following general formula (SEQ ID NO 1):

(1)-(2)-(3)-(4)-(5)-(6)-(7)-(8)-(9)-(10)-E,

wherein

(1) signifies K or T,
(2) signifies A, G, K, M or T,
(3) signifies R, D, A, E, Q or K,
(4) signifies E, K or S,
(5) signifies T, F, Y or A,
(6) signifies K, R, T or A,
(7) signifies D, E or Q,
(8) signifies S, R, Y or K,
(9) signifies A or T, and
(10) signifies G, A or R.

33. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim 27, wherein ~~the composition comprises~~ said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is of LEA-subclass 3 ~~with~~ and further has an amino acid sequence coded by a nucleotide sequence ~~as~~ selected from the group consisting of those deposited in GenBank under the accession number AF423069 or S39475.

34. (Currently Amended) A surface according to claim 27, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class is of LEA subclass 3 and further has a motif comprising 11 amino acids, wherein the motif is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) K-T-A-E-F-R-D-S-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 2),
(b) K-G-Q-E-F-K-E-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 3),
(c) K-A-E-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO. 4),
(d) K-M-D-E-T-K-Q-R-A-G-E (SEQ ID NO.5),
(e) K-A-R-K-T-K-D-S-A-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 6),
(f) K-A-K-E-Y-K-D-Y-T-A-E (SEQ ID NO. 7),
(g) K-A-R-E-T-T-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 8), and
(h) T-K-D-S-A-A-E-K-A-R-E (SEQ ID NO. 9).

35. (Previously Presented) An analytical and/or diagnostic device, comprising a surface as defined in claim 27.

36. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 35 selected from the group consisting of biochips, sensor chips, microtiter plates, test tubes and culture dishes.

37. (New) An analytic and/or diagnostic device, comprising a surface as defined in claim 10.